

Serial No. 09/919,649
Attorney Ref. No. 10014832-1

REMARKS

A non-final Office Action, dated August 19, 2003, allows pending claims 8, 9 11-14, 22, 24, 25 and 32-36, objects to claims 26-28, 30 and 31, and rejects claims 37-40, 42 and 43. Applicants have canceled rejected claims 37-40, 42 and 43 herein without prejudice, and amended the allowable claims 26-28, 30 and 31 to place them in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants maintain that the forgoing amendments place the entire application in condition for allowance.

Allowed Claims

Regarding allowed claims, applicants agree with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing to the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicants believe that these claims are allowable because the prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

Allowable Subject Matter

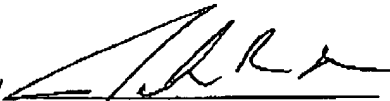
The examiner has objected to claims 26-28, 30 and 31, but has indicated that they would be allowed if amended to depend on allowed claim 32 rather than allowed claim 33. Applicants have so amended these claims, and therefore they should now be in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that all of the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that this case be passed to issuance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

November 17, 2003

By



John R. Dawson
Registration No. 39,504

ipsolon llp
805 SW Broadway # 2740
Portland, Oregon 97205
Phone No. (503) 419-0702
Fax No. (503) 249-7068
E-Mail: john@ipsolon.com